IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring a broadcast signal, the method comprising:

receiving, by an end user device, a broadcast signal, the broadcast signal including at least three components, an identification signal and a timebase being a periodic incremental clock inserted in one of the three data components, ~~,~~ ;

generating a local timebase corresponding to said received timebase;

monitoring the broadcast signal ~~for an~~ in order to detect the identification signal, ~~,~~ ; and

pausing the ~~received~~ local timebase, at unspecified time intervals, to accommodate at least interactive applications, if the identification signal is not ~~present~~detected; ~~, wherein said timebase is a periodic clock inserted into one of the three data components,~~ and

restarting the ~~received~~ output timebase when the identification signal is ~~present~~ detected such that at least two of the three components are resynchronized with the interactive applications.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal comprises a video component, an audio component, and a data component.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, wherein the timebase is ~~a periodic clock~~ inserted into the data component of the broadcast signal.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the broadcast signal is a digital signal and the identification signal is present in the data component of the broadcast signal.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the broadcast signal is an analogue signal and the identification signal is present in the vertical blanking interval of the broadcast signal.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the identification signal is present in the normal data structures describing the video component of the broadcast signal.

8. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for monitoring a broadcast signal, the apparatus comprising:

~~receiving means~~a receiver for receiving the broadcast signal, the broadcast signal including at least three components, an identification signal and a timebase being a periodic

incremental clock, at least one of said three components forming interactive applications to be executed on said apparatus ~~and~~;

~~monitoring means for monitoring the broadcast signal~~a signal detector for detecting the ~~an~~ identification signal in the broadcast signal, ~~and for pausing, at unspecified time intervals, to accommodate at least interactive applications, the received timebase if the identification signal is not present~~said signal detector generating a detection signal when said identification signal is not detected; and~~, wherein said timebase is a periodic clock inserted into one of the three data components, and~~

~~restarting means for restarting the received timebase when the identification signal is present~~

a timebase generator for receiving said timebase and for generating a local timebase corresponding to said received timebase, said timebase generator also receiving the detection signal from the signal detector for pausing the local timebase when the identification signal is not detected, ~~such that~~whereby in case of unexpected interruptions in the received timebase and the identification signal, the received timebase and the local timebase remain synchronized and at least two of the three components are resynchronized with the interactive applications.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the signal comprises a video component, an audio component, and a data component.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the received timebase is ~~a periodic clock~~ inserted into the data component of the broadcast signal.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the ~~receiving means~~receiver and the ~~monitoring means~~signal detector are portions of an integrated circuit.

12. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the apparatus is a digital television receiver.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the pausing step occurs due to insertion of additional information in the broadcast signal.

15. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the additional information is advertisements.

16. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 14, wherein the additional information is unannounced weather updates.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the pausing of the ~~monitoring means~~local timebase occurs due to insertion of additional information in the broadcast signal.

18. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the additional information is advertisements.

19. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the additional information is unannounced weather updates.